

use his discretion in extending his main triangulation, at the expense of the Coast Survey, over the other parts of the State, equally with the Eastern Shore—and we, in return, will agree to have executed the detailed surveys required for his work—indeed for both works,—at the expense of the State, in manner to be directed by himself, so to be communicated for use in the Coast Survey.

We presume that we need hardly detail the advantages which both works may be expected to enjoy in the junction and co operation we have proposed. On our side, the guarantee of accuracy in the measurement of base lines, and the ascertainment of main points, which will be assured in Mr. Hassler's superintendance is of very great interest. While on the other hand, the entire cost of the secondary operation in Maryland, will be saved to the United States, and the results of all the operations considerably hastened. Even if the surveys in Maryland should not be of sufficient extent materially to influence the time of completion in the national undertaking, it may be reasonably hoped, that the example of our State may be so sympathised in, and followed by others, as to introduce an important acceleration in the entire work.

Mr. Hassler having communicated to us that there were certain instruments in the collection of the Coast Survey no longer needed for the purposes of that survey, yet desirable on account of their excellence, for our work, we would beg leave in addition, to propose that he may be permitted, as before, to use his discretion in transferring these instruments for the use of our survey, at the prices which they may have originally cost. Those which we have particularly in view at present are either or both of two nine inch Theodolites, originally purchased for purposes which we suppose are answered; but as it might be of high importance for us to use temporarily, or for a longer time other instruments of that survey; which will be in fact, should the proposed junction be agreed upon and carried into effect, nothing more than to use them for both works—we would suggest, as a part of our plan of co operation, that M. Hassler be allowed the discretion, upon occasions of applications from us, of transferring to our custody such instruments as may be proper, either first, by an absolute sale of them; or secondly, by a